## Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 ISO-00 DPW-01 ACDA-05 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /078 R

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P R 132220Z FEB 75 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY INFO AMEMBASSY BERN AMEMBASSY SAIGON USMISSION USUN NEW YORK USDEL JEC PARIS

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ICRC, PARM, VS, VN, PFOR, PDIP, UN SUBJECT PRG LIAISON OFFICE IN GENEVA: NON-HUMANITARIAN ACTIVITIES

REF: A. USUN 465; B. GENEVA 818; C. GENEVA 597; D. BERN 412; E. STATE 18055

1. PHAM VAN BA'S FEBRUARY 7 PRESS CONFERENCE APPEARS TO BE CLEAR VIOLATION OF LIMITATIONS ON HIS FUNCTION AS CHIEF OF PRG LIAISON OFFICE TO UN GENEVA. CONTENT OF PRESS CONFERENCE (AS REPORTED REF B) WAS POLITICAL IN NATURE, CONTENTIOUS IN TONE, AND GROSSLY EXCEEDED LIAISON OFFICE'S PROPER FUNCTIONS WHICH ARE RESTRICTED TO UN-RELATED HUMANITARIAN ACTIVITIES.

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2. DEPT UNDERSTANDS, HOWEVER, THAT LAW OF WAR CONFERENCE

BEING HELD AT NON-UN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CENTER NOT RPT NOT AT UN PALAIS DES NATIONS. GIVEN THIS AND FACT THAT LOW NOT RPT NOT A UN CONFERENCE, IT APPEARS THAT ANY PROTEST DIRECTED AGAINST PHAM'S PRESS CONFERENCE SHOULD BE MADE IN FIRST INSTANCE TO GOS ALTHOUGH POSSIBLY TO WINSPEARE AS WELL. PERTINENT IN THIS RESPECT IS SITE OF PRESS CONFERENCE; WE ASSUME IT WAS NOT RPT NOT HELD ON ANY UN PREMISES BUT WOULD APPRECIATE MISSION CONFIRMATION OF THIS.

- 3. ALSO PERTINENT IS CAPACITY IN WHICH PHAM SPOKE, AND DEPT REQUESTS THAT MISSION SEEK TO DETERMINE THIS POINT AS WELL. IF HE SPOKE IN CAPACITY AS MEMBER OF PRG DEL TO LOW CONFERENCE, WE WILL CONTEND IN APPROACH TO GOS THAT HE COULD HAVE HAD NO RPT NO SUCH STATUS WITH REGARD TO CONFERENCE SINCE PRG NOT RPT NOT INVITED. IF PHAM SPOKE IN CAPACITY AS CHIEF OF LIAISON OFFICE WE WILL CONTEND IN APPROACHES TO BOTH GOS AND WINSPEARE THAT PRESS CONFERENCE WAS EGREGIOUS VIOLATION OF LIMITATIONS ON HIS FUNCTIONS SINCE PRESS CONFERENCE WAS BOTH POLITICAL IN NATURE AND UNRELATED TO UN MATTERS. WE ARE ASSUMING THAT NEITHER SWISS NOR UN WILL CONTEND THAT PHAM VAN BA WHEN IN GENEVA SPEAKS AS REP OF PRG PERMANENT MISSION IN PARIS (REFTEL B).
- 4. AS SOON AS MISSION'S REPLY RECEIVED, DEPT WILL INSTRUCT IT CONCERNING DEMARCHE(S) TO BE MADE.
- 5. REQUEST MISSION CABLE TEXTS OF STATEMENTS REFERRED TO IN REF B. INGERSOLL

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## Message Attributes

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TAGS: PARM, PFOR, PDIP, VS, VN, ICRC, UN, PRG To: GENEVA

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